

AmeriCorps in Montana

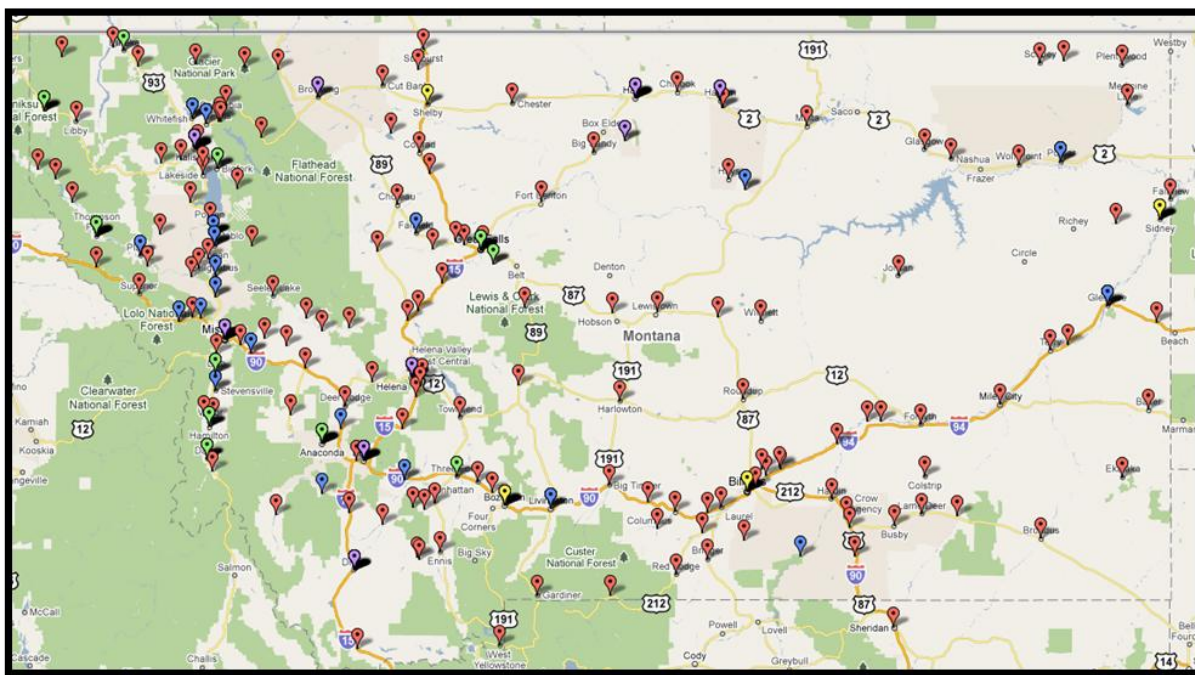


AmeriCorps members...

- Gain job skills
- Earn money for college
- Learn the importance of giving back to Montana communities

A focus of our strong five AmeriCorps state programs is to develop tomorrow's leaders,

AmeriCorps State Service Projects in Montana



Snapshot: 1100 AmeriCorps State members serving in Montana

- At least 17 years of age -- a few as old as 65 -- with a median age of 23
- Two-thirds claim Montana as their residence
- Serve a minimum of 300 hours – some giving up to 3,000 hours a year
- One-third earn a stipend
- When completing term of service, all can earn an education award ranging from \$1,175 to \$5,350
 - More than \$1.87 million in education awards was earned to pay for college in 2009
- Since 2005, \$9.5 million in education awards has gone to our colleges and universities and student lending organizations in Montana
- Focus on Education, Veterans and Military Families, Environmental Stewardship, Opportunity, Healthy Futures, Disaster Services, Math and Science Education, Clean Energy, and Volunteer Generation

Snapshot: AmeriCorps State Members Getting Things Done for MT Communities (Since July 2009)

- Planted **83,306** Trees
- **444** College Students volunteered while studying Health Care Occupations
- Collected **50,000** lbs of Food
- Built or Maintained **1,673** Miles of Trail
 - enough to walk the interstate from Glendive to Missoula ... 3 times
- Mentored **3,437** Children
- Weatherized **2,700** Homes
- Restored **18** Miles of Stream Bed
- Built or Repaired **56** Miles of Fence
 - stretching the distance of the Beartooth Highway or Going to the Sun Road
- **104** College Students volunteered while preparing to be Teachers
- Distributed Tax Prep Information to **3,500** Montana Citizens
- Recruited **25,543** volunteers

Snapshot: Montana Ranks 9th for Volunteerism (According to a national survey – Volunteering in America)

- 35.5% of Montanans Volunteer
- Top 2 areas citizens spend their time volunteering: 1. Church and 2. Education
- Billings, in an average year (2006-2009)
 1. 37,000 individuals volunteered
 2. Contributed 4.3 million hours of service to their community

Snapshot: AmeriCorps service story

Carlos Hernandez, Flathead Valley Community College **Campus Corps** member volunteered with Habitat for Humanity

"I have always been a hands-on type of person who likes to get dirty and physical so it wasn't easy to adjust. This whole year serving with Campus Corps has taught me that there is so much more to volunteering and helping out than just the physical part. I don't think I ever fully realized how important it is to just be there for others till this year when everybody was there to help and support me. It's a really great feeling and I plan to keep helping in any way that I can."

A Great Falls **Young Adult Service Corps** member, one of 110 members in Montana High Schools

"This year I got the chance to work on a house that is built for low-income families' through NeighborWorks. Throughout the volunteer service, I learned many new skills that I can apply to my everyday life. This year a SkillsUSA competition was held in Havre, MT. A select group of participants on the High School house were able to attend this competition. Through the numerous skills I acquired through this program, I was able to take 3rd place in the carpentry event. It was a very rewarding experience that I owe to this program."

